

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 03444 251301Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 DHA-02 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 ACDA-07
/084 W

-----087418 251321Z /41

R 250915Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8321
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY MANAMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUWAIT 3444

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PGOV
SUBJECT: PROSPECTS FOR RETURN TO FULL CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT
IN KUWAIT

1. WE FIND THAT, AMONG INFORMED KUWAITIS AND OTHER
INFORMED ARAB OPINION IN KUWAIT, THE BELIEF REMAINS
THAT THE SABAH FAMILY WILL INDEED HONOR ITS
COMMITMENT MADE LAST AUGUST TO RESORE CONSTITUTIONAL
GOVERNMENT WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED PERIOD OF TIME
(FOUR YEARS). NO ONE EXPECTS A RAPID RETURN TO THE
STATUS QUO ANTE DISSOLUTION OF THE FORMER NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY--THERE WILL BE CHANGES IN THE ASSEMBLY
GROUND RULES AND THEY WILL PROBALLY INSTITUTIONALIZE
THE SHURA CONCEPT OF PUBLIC ADVICE/PARTICIPATION,
AND WILL PERHAPS TIGHTEN UP ELIGIBILITY FOR
CANDIDACY FOR ANY ASSEMBLY. HOWEVER, THERE IS
SURPRISINGLY LITTLE SKEPTICISM ABOUT THE
GENUINENESS OF THE LONG-RANGE INTENTIONS OF THE
RULING FAMILY.

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2. WHEN ONE LOCAL NEWSPAPER REPORTED LAST WEEK THAT
THE AMIR HAD DECIDED TO DELAY THE CONVOCAION OF A
CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION COMMITTEE UNTIL "NEXT YEAR"--
A REPORT WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO CONFIRM--THERE WAS
NO FLURRY OF COMMENT NOR EVIDENCE OF CONCERN HERE.
RATHER, OUR SOUNDINGS SHOWED COMPLETE FAITH THAT

THE CONSTITUTION WILL BE REVISED IN GOOD ORDER,
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WILL BE REVIVED THEREAFTER
AND "FULL DEMOCRACY" WILL RETURN TO KUWAIT. (THIS
OPINION IS SHARED EVEN BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, WHO APPARENTLY DID NOT AGREE
WITH THE NEED FOR ASSEMBLY DISSOLUTION LAST YEAR,
BUT WHO RECENTLY TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE PASSAGE OF
TIME WILL RESTORE THE ASSEMBLY'S FUNCTION AND
FREEDOM SUBSTANTIALLY UNDIMINISHED.)

3. ADVOCATES OF SOME FORM OF MORE LIBERAL, WESTERN-
MODEL GOVERNMENT TELL FOREIGN OBSERVERS THAT THEY
BELIEVE THE ONUS IS NOW ON THE EDUCATED KUWAITI
ELITE TO KEEP PRESSING FOR MORE REPRESENTATIVE
GOVERNMENT. THE GOK WILL BE TAKING REGULAR
SOUNDINGS OF PUBLIC OPINION REGARDING CHANGE, AND
WE WOULD NOT EXPECT THEM TO MOVE FASTER THAN THEY
FIND THE MOOD DICTATES.
MAESTRONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTITUTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: PGOV, KU
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